

# Claims

[c1] We claim:

1.A method for managing electronic transcripts and electronic exhibits performed on at least one processor, the method comprising the steps of:  
selecting an electronic transcript file to associate with at least one electronic exhibit;  
displaying the association tool;  
inputting a user defined association between the electronic transcript and the electronic exhibit;  
identifying at least one electronic exhibit to be associated with the electronic transcript by the user defined association;  
choosing a type of association between the electronic transcript and the at least one electronic exhibit; and  
applying the association to the electronic transcript such that the electronic transcript and the at least one electronic exhibit are associated.

[c2] 2.The method of claim 1, wherein the type of association is a link from the electronic transcript to the at least one electronic exhibit.

[c3] 3.The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps

of:

activating the applied association; and  
displaying the at least one electronic exhibit.

- [c4] 4.The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:  
displaying the electronic transcript in a first window; and  
displaying the at least one electronic exhibit in at least a second window.
- [c5] 5.The method of claim 3, wherein the step of displaying the at least one electronic exhibit comprises the step of displaying an image.
- [c6] 6.The method of claim 3, wherein the step of displaying the at least one electronic exhibit comprises playing an audio file.
- [c7] 7.The method of claim 3, wherein the step of displaying the at least one electronic exhibit comprises playing a video file.
- [c8] 8.The method of claim 3, wherein the step of displaying the at least one electronic exhibit comprises playing an audio/video file.
- [c9] 9.The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

synchronizing a media file with the electronic transcript;  
and  
appending the media file to the electronic transcript.

- [c10] 10.The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of launching the media file in a media window.
- [c11] 11.The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of advancing the electronic transcript along with the media file.
- [c12] 12.The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one electronic exhibit is displayed as the electronic transcript is advanced past the association.
- [c13] 13.The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of recognizing the characters of the at least one electronic exhibit to provide character searching of the at least one electronic exhibit.
- [c14] 14.The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of importing a file to a project, the file selected from a group of files consisting of electronic transcript files and electronic exhibit files.
- [c15] 15.A system for managing electronic transcripts and electronic exhibits, comprising:  
a transcript manager;

an organizational and control module connected to the transcript manager to provide tools; a memory comprising at least one electronic transcript file and at least one electronic exhibit file connected to the transcript manager; and a display connected to the transcript manager, the display providing at least a graphical user interface and at least one viewer, such that the transcript manager provides a graphical user interface and the organizational control module provides tools whereby a user can manage the at least one electronic transcript and the at least one exhibit.

- [c16] 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the memory comprises a local memory connected to the transcript manager.
- [c17] 17. The system of claim 15, wherein the memory comprises at least a remote memory connected to the transcript manager through a network connection.
- [c18] 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the network is selected from a group of networks consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, an optical network, a wireless network, a WiFi network, an Ethernet, Internet, and World Wide Web.

- [c19] 19.The system of claim 15, wherein the memory comprises a removable medium.
- [c20] 20.The system of claim 19, wherein the removable medium is selected from the group consisting of a magnetic disk, an optical disk, and a tape.
- [c21] 21.The system of claim 15, wherein the graphical user interface receives user input from an input device selected from a group consisting of a keyboard, a mouse, a track ball, a light pen, and a touch screen.
- [c22] 22.The system of claim 15, wherein the display provides a first display to display the at least one electronic transcript and a second display to display the at least one electronic exhibit.
- [c23] 23.The system of claim 22, further comprising a media player to display media selected from a group of media consisting of audio, video, and audio/video.
- [c24] 24.The system of claim 15, further comprising at least one dialog box in which a user can enter a user defined association between the at least one electronic transcript and the at least one electronic exhibit.